THE ULTIMATE SPACE FANTASY!

SPELLJAMMER

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Kesel
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THE POWER AND THE PRICE!

MICHAEL COLLINS & KESEL '90

THE CREW OF MEREDITH'S SKYSHIP EXPECTED ONLY A SHORT STOP ON THE JUNGLE WORLD **BORODA**. INSTEAD, THEIR VISIT HAS INCLUDED A MONSTER HUNT, A DRAGON ATTACK AND THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ONE OF THEIR OWN.

...A RED DRAGON?

YOU'RE SAYING A RED DRAGON WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS DESTRUCTION?

BUT THERE ***AREN'T*** ANY DRAGONS ON BORODA!

I SAW SOME KIDS TALKING TO ONE...

YOU ***WHAT***? JASMINE, WHY DIDN'T YOU MENTION THIS SOONER? ***WHAT*** WERE YOU ***THINKING***?

I'M JUST A VISITOR HERE, BORS. I FIGURED WHAT ***YOUR KIDS*** DID IN PRIVATE WAS ***THEIR*** BUSINESS.

BORS! ***BORS!*** ***JASMINE*** IS NOT THE ONE WHO DID THIS!

AAAAAAAHH... YOU'RE RIGHT, JIEN, MY LOVE.

JASMINE, I'M SORRY.

SHOULD BE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO FIRST.

IF OUR MISSING CHILDREN ***ARE*** IN THE COMPANY OF A RED DRAGON, WE SHOULD FIND THEM.

BUT WITH THE TOWN WALLS SO DAMAGED, WE CAN'T LEAVE THEM UNATTENDED.

AND WE STILL HAVE THE LAST OF THE ESCAPED MONSTERS TO RECAPTURE...

WELL, I CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT ONE PROBLEM: I'LL CIRCLE ABOVE AND KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR ANY ROAMING UGLIES.

AND IF I'M NOT UNDER YOUR NOSE, YOU CAN'T KEEP PICKING ON ME FOR SOMETHING I DIDN'T DO!

BORS--ABOUT THAT WALL... JUST BECAUSE *YOU* TURNED YOUR BACK ON MAGIC--

--DOESN'T MEAN YOUR ANCIENT MOTHER DOESN'T STILL HAVE HER POWERS!

YOU AND YOUR WARRIORS GO HUNT MONSTERS AND MISSING CHILDREN...

...I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE WALL!

NO MONSTERS, JUST A FEW STRANGERS.

HEY, *JASMINE!* TELL THEM TO OPEN UP!

THEY *KNOW* ME? WELL, THERE'S SO MANY NEW FACES HERE, IT'S NO SURPRISE I'VE FORGOTTEN A FEW...

OPEN THE GATE-- A HUNTING PARTY'S COME BACK!

...BUT IF THEY'RE *STRANGERS*, THEY MAY BRING SOME NEWS OF THE *DRAGON*...

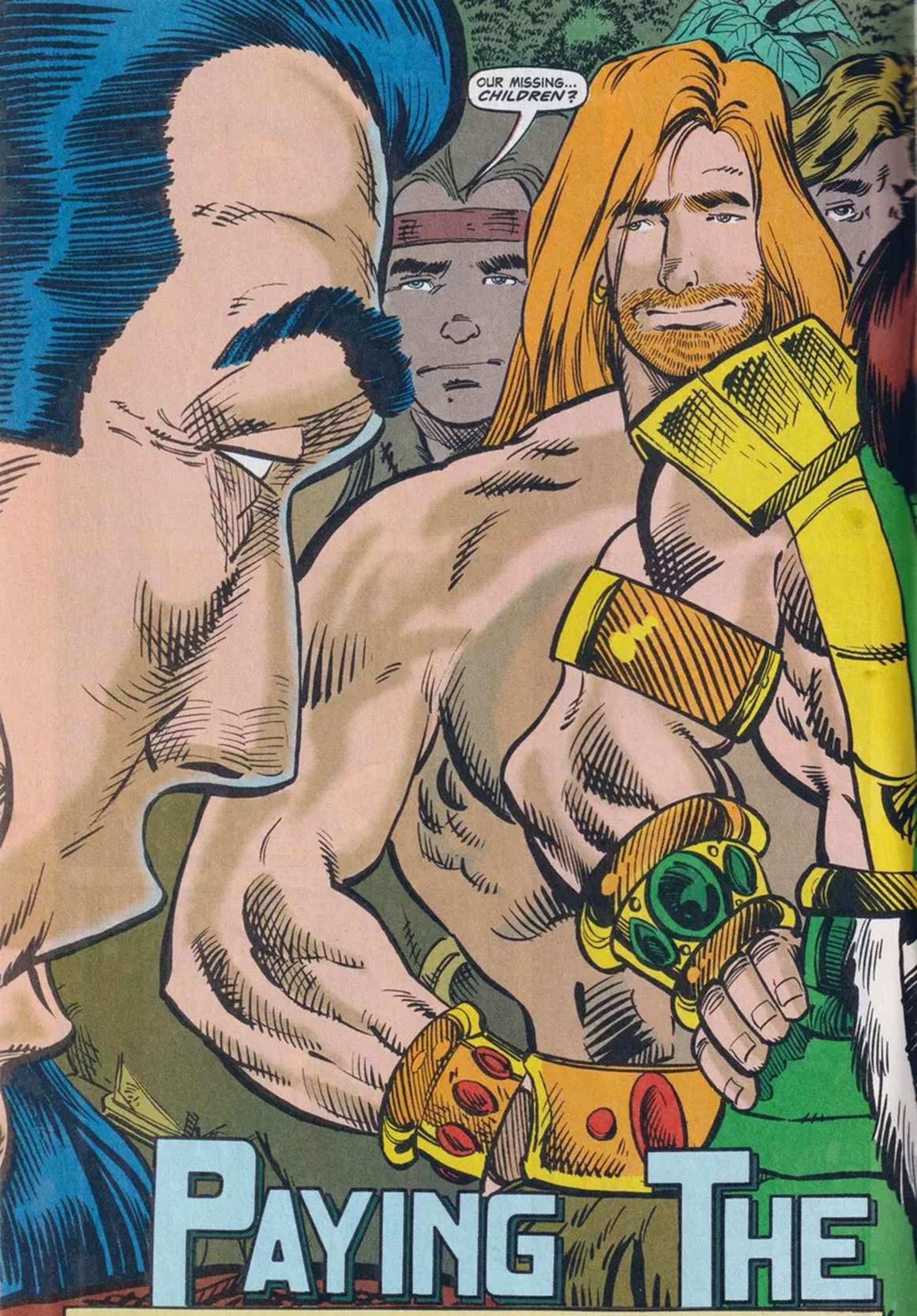
DIDN'T ALL THE SMALL PATROLS COME BACK ALREADY?

I *THOUGHT* SO...

BY MYSTRA!

IT'S--

IT'S--



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WAIT'LL YOU HEAR WHAT HAPPENED! WE MET THIS *DRAGON!*

TEMBER! LET *ME* TELL IT! WE BEFRIENDED THIS FLYING GOD --HIS NAME'S WILDFYRE.

HE MADE US *GROWNUPS*, DAD, ALL FOR JUST KEEPING HIM ENTERTAINED WITH *STORIES* OF EVERYDAY THINGS LIKE OUR TOWN, THE JUNGLE, THE WAY WE HUNT--THINGS LIKE THAT!

NOW YOU WON'T THINK WE'RE SO *USELESS* ANYMORE!

PRICE

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C'MON, DAD, IT'S ME --TENAH!
WHAT'S WRONG?
WHY DO YOU LOOK SO ANGRY?
PAY ATTENTION, ALL OF YOU.
YOU WILL BE ADMITTED INSIDE LONG ENOUGH TO SEE WHAT YOUR FRIENDSHIP WITH A RED DRAGON HAS COST YOUR FAMILIES.
YOU WILL THEN LEAVE THESE GATES *FOREVER!* FOR YOUR STUPID, COSTLY ACTIONS, YOU ARE ALL HEREBY *EXILED!*
WE'RE *WHAT?*
OH, NO!
OUR TOWN!
WHO DID THIS?
LOOK, CHILDREN... SEE THE HANDIWORK OF YOUR NEW FRIEND...
...YOUR *FLYING GOD!*

WILDFYRE... DID THIS?

I *KNEW* HE WAS TROUBLE! DON'T YOU SEE? YOU WERE *USED!*

THE DRAGON TRICKED YOU INTO SETTING UP EVERYBODY! I BET *HE* CRASHED THE GATE AND LET THE MONSTERS OUT!

THEN, WHEN YOU WERE HUNTING *MONSTERS*, CONVENIENTLY OUT OF THE WAY, HE CAME AND DID *THIS!*

NO! HE WOULDN'T!

WILDFYRE LOVES US!

LOOK AT WHAT'S HAPPENED, TENAH. WHO ELSE *COULD'VE* DONE THIS?

NOT TO SAY "I TOLD YOU SO..."

...BUT I *KNEW* A RED DRAGON WAS NOTHING BUT TROUBLE. I JUST COULDN'T GO OFF AND LEAVE YOU THERE WITH HIM.

DON'T BE *PREACHY*, TEMBER...

YOU CAME WITH US. *YOU* GOT CHANGED, TOO!

NONE OF US BOTHERED TO THINK WHY HE'D DO SOMETHING SO WONDERFUL FOR JUST *STORIES...*

HE DIDN'T WANT OUR *STORIES*... HE WANTED OUR *INFORMATION!*

WILDFYRE'S... *VERY BAD!*

I'M GOING TO FIND HIM...

...AND MAKE HIM... MAKE HIM *FIX* THIS!

RENC!

IT'S TIME FOR ALL OF YOU TO LEAVE.

BUT, *FATHER!* *WE* AREN'T RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS!

YOU GAVE YOUR HOME TO A RED DRAGON. YOU NO LONGER HAVE A PLACE HERE.

HOW DO YOU EXPECT THEM TO HELP FIX THINGS IF YOU SEND THEM AWAY? THAT'S NO WAY TO TREAT YOUR KIDS! YOU CAN'T--

YOU TOO, TEMBER. *GO.*

BUT *I'M* NOT ONE OF THEM! TENAH JUST DRAGGED ME ALONG! I DIDN'T *DO* ANYTH--

YOU SHARED IN THEIR *REWARD*, YOU CAN SHARE IN THEIR *PUNISHMENT.*

JUST *LOOK* AT WHAT WE *ARE* NOW, BORS! YOU *CAN'T* MAKE US LEAVE IF WE DON'T *WANT* TO GO!

NOBODY CAN--

WHOOP!

EXCEPT MAYBE *YOU*, HANNOUS.

WELL...

YOU'LL--

YOU'LL BE SORRY!

SLAM

I HOPE...

OH, TEMBER... WHY DO YOU ALWAYS GET YOURSELF SO MIXED UP IN THINGS?

TRY TO FIND SOME PEACE IN SLEEP TONIGHT. WE'LL GATHER THE DEAD IN THE MORNING AND, ONCE THEY'RE CARED FOR, WE'LL HAVE TO RESUME THE--

BORS...

NOT NOW, MOTHER. I'M NO LONGER A *CHILD*. I DON'T NEED *CONSOLING*.

CONSOLING?

I WAS GOING TO CHIDE YOU FOR YOUR HEARTLESSNESS!

GUARDS --OPEN THE GATE.

NO NEED TO LISTEN FOR MY RETURN...

I'LL BE SPENDING THE NIGHT IN MY SHIP. TELL BORS TO FIND ME THERE IN THE MORNING, *IF* HE'S SO INCLINED.

HELLO, LITTLE SHIP.

I KNOW YOU'RE LONELY, BUT I WISH YOU WOULDN'T BROADCAST IT SO LOUDLY.

YOU MAKE IT SO HARD TO THINK...

I NEED TO CONCENTRATE TO STUDY MY SPELLS, AND I'LL DO IT HERE IF YOU'LL JUST STOP WHINING!

SEE? I'M NOT LEAVING. YOU KNOW I'LL NEVER LEAVE YOU FOR LONG...

NOW, LET'S SEE...

DRAGONS...

AND WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT TEMBER, HMMM?

MORNING DAWNS ON A WEARY GROUP OF FORMER CHILDREN:

IF WE CATCH WILDFYRE BY SURPRISE AND WE ALL ATTACK AT ONCE, WE CAN PROBABLY KILL HIM.

WE'RE NEARLY GODS OURSELVES-- IT *SHOULD* BE EASY.

YOU THINK HE'S JUST GOING TO BE WAITING FOR US?

WHY NOT? HE DOESN'T KNOW WE DON'T LIKE HIM ANYMORE.

EVERYBODY READY?

THEN LET'S GO HUNT A DRAGON.

THIS IS THE KIND OF THING I'VE BEEN DOING ALL MY LIFE-- SNEAKING THROUGH DARK PLACES, GETTING WHAT I CAME FOR, THEN GETTING AWAY WITHOUT BEING DISCOVERED.

THAT'S ME, ONE OF THE GREAT ADVENTURERS OF WATERDEEP--ALWAYS AWARE, ALWAYS PREPARED, ALWAYS ON MY TOES...

SO HOW COME I HAVEN'T GOT A CLUE HOW TO GET THOSE KIDS OUT OF HERE ALIVE?

HE'S SLEEPING.
IS HE REALLY?
I THINK HE IS.
HE HASN'T MOVED.
NO POINT IN WAITING.
ON MY CALL, WE CHARGE.
GO!
REMEMBER, TRY FOR HIS *HE*--
CHILDREN...
...THIS IS A *PLEASANT* SURPRISE!
LUCKILY, I RECOGNIZED YOUR *VOICES* WHEN YOU ENTERED THE LAIR, OR I MIGHT HAVE ACCIDENTALLY TAKEN YOU FOR INTRUDERS AND-- *ELIMINATED* YOU.
BUT WE'RE ALL *FRIENDS* HERE--
--AREN'T WE?

NO! WE'RE HERE TO GET REVENGE, WILDFYRE!

NOW, YOU WOULDN'T BE DISTURBING MY SLUMBER WITH THREATS WOULD YOU?

STOP NOW, YOUNGLINGS, AND ALL WILL BE FORGIVEN.

YOU LIED! YOU KILLED THEM! AND WE THOUGHT YOU WERE SPECIAL!

NOW WE'RE EXILED AND WE'RE GOING TO MAKE YOU PAY FOR YOUR LIES!

CORRECTION: NOW YOU'RE DEAD.

FWOOOSH

RENC!

SKROOOOSH

NOW THAT YOU UNDERSTAND MY POWER...

...PERHAPS WE CAN DISCUSS THIS CIVILLY.

...THERE WILL BE NO MORE GAMES! I CAME TO THIS WORLD BECAUSE I INTEND TO MAKE MYSELF ITS GOD!

I HAVE GIVEN YOU A GIFT IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR SACRIFICE. IF YOU SO CHOOSE, YOU MAY KEEP YOUR NEW BODIES AND SERVE ME AS... GODLINGS.

IF YOU CHOOSE TO FIGHT ME, YOU WILL BE DESTROYED AS YOUR FRIEND WAS.

WHICH DO YOU CHOOSE?

WHY SO QUIET? OH, POOR GODLINGS... CHILDREN EXILED FROM HOME SO YOUNG...

EXILED BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU DID! NOW WE CAN'T EVER GO HOME!

THEN YOU CAN HAVE A HOME WITH ME NOW. YOU JUST HAVE TO KEEP ME... SATISFIED.

STRENGTH AND PROTECTION IN EXCHANGE FOR SIMPLE SERVICE. THAT'S MORE THAN FAIR. I'LL RESPECT YOU AS YOUR ELDERS DON'T, TREAT YOU AS THE GODLINGS YOU ARE.

YOUR CHOICE?

REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO RENC...

WHAT CHOICE DO WE HAVE?

UH... YES!

I GUESS SO.

ARE THEY CRAZY?

DON'T THEY SEE HE'S TWISTING EVERYTHING AROUND?

ANYTHING'S BETTER THAN WHAT... YES!

WHY NOT?

THIS IS TOO MUCH. THE DAY I PLAY SERVANT TO A RED DRAGON IS THE DAY MY ELDERS START WORSHIPPING *WAR* INSTEAD OF PEACE.

SERVE THE CREATURE THAT *MURDERED* ALL THOSE PEOPLE?

I WON'T LISTEN TO ANY MORE OF THIS. I'M *LEAVING*.

VERY WELL, THEN--LET ME SPEED YOU ON YOUR WAY.

TEMBER!

HAVE YOU COMPLETELY LOST YOUR MIND?

FWOOOOOSH

I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M EVEN *BOTHERING*! YOU *ARE* HOPELESS!

JASMINE, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU FOL--

OOOOF!

UNGH!

JAZ? ARE YOU OKAY? I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING...

NEITHER CAN I. FEEL AROUND--SEE IF YOU CAN FIND A STICK OR SOMETHING...

OKAY, I-- OOPS! SORRY, JASMINE.

UH... HERE'S SOMETHING. BUT JUST *WHAT* WERE YOU PLANNING TO LIGHT IT WITH?

I ALWAYS CARRY FLINT AND STEEL WITH ME.

RIGHT. YOU NEVER KNOW *WHEN* YOU MIGHT BE STARTING FIRES...

SO! YOU... UH... FOLLOWED ME-- *US*.

I GET IT-- YOU'RE JEALOUS OF TENAH, AM I RIGHT?

JEALOUS? ME?

I SHOULD'VE LET THE DRAGON COOK YOU!

TEMBER! STOP TALKING LIKE THAT!

MAYBE YOU *SHOULD'VE*. I'VE REALLY MESSED THINGS UP THIS TIME.

HURRY-- I WANT TO GET OUT OF THESE CAVES BEFORE HE GETS THE IDEA TO FOLLOW US!

GOOD IDEA. BUT WHICH WAY?

FOLLOW ME-- I SEE DAYLIGHT AHEAD.

JASMINE, WHAT ABOUT THE *OTHERS*? WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE THEM THERE WITH WILDFYRE!

WHY NOT? THEY'RE SAFE WITH THE DRAGON FOR NOW. *YOU* WERE THE ONLY ONE WHO CONFRONTED HIM.

YOU AND I WOULD ONLY GET *FRIED* IF WE WENT BACK IN THERE, AND *I'M* NOT WILLING TO DIE A *STUPID* DEATH.

OUR JOB NOW IS TO GO BACK AND ALERT THE OTHERS.

NOW, I *COULD* CARRY YOU BACK TO THE VILLAGE--

--AND CARRYING YOU WAS LOTS EASIER THE WAY YOU WERE *BEFORE*--

--BUT SINCE YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T GET A WARM RECEPTION THERE *ANYWAY*, WE MIGHT AS WELL THINK OF SOMEPLACE ELSE TO HIDE YOU...

TEMBER? ARE YOU LISTENING?

HOW AM I EVER GOING TO EXPLAIN THIS TO PAX? OR MEREDITH? MAYBE YOU SHOULD JUST LEAVE ME HERE FOR THE DRAGON...

TEMBER! WOULD YOU *STOP* THAT?

HIDE UP HERE--STAY OUT OF SIGHT AND I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU AFTER I'VE HAD A CHANCE TO TALK TO THE OTHERS.

I'M SURE *MEREDITH*, AT LEAST, WILL UNDERSTAND.

JUST MAKE SURE YOU STAY *SAFE* SO I DON'T HAVE TO DRAG YOUR WORTHLESS REAR OUT OF TROUBLE *AGAIN*...

BE BACK SOON.

UH... JASMINE?

UM... THANKS.

I'M SURPRISED YOU LEFT YOUR DEAD SO QUICKLY, BORS.

WE'VE BURIED THEIR BODIES. THERE WILL BE PROPER MOURNING OF THEIR SPIRITS *AFTER* THE TROUBLE HAS PASSED.

WE MUST TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT THE LIVING.

YOU ALL HAVE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS.

TAKE YOUR POSITIONS.

THIS WORLD IS SO... CRUEL.

I FEEL FOR THESE PEOPLE, BUT I WANT SO DESPERATELY TO *LEAVE*... TO ONCE MORE BE WHERE I CAN HEAR THE MELODIES OF THE MOTHER OF SONGS...

WHY IS EVERYONE *SO SLOW* TODAY?

THEY CARRY THE EXTRA WEIGHT OF *TRAGEDY*, MY HUSBAND. THEY'LL FIND THEIR SPEED WHEN IT'S NECESSARY.

THERE'S THE GIANT SLUG'S SLIME TRAIL. TRACKING IT WILL BE CHILD'S WORK FROM HERE.

UNLESS THE *DRAGON* DECIDES TO TRACK US.

I'M ALL RIGHT, HANNOUS. I WAS JUST A LITTLE *DIZZY* FOR A MOMENT.

THIS WORLD... IT'S SUDDENLY SO HARD TO KEEP MY BALANCE HERE.

BUT I WANT TO GO ON.

I OWE WHAT SERVICE I CAN GIVE TO THESE BRAVE PEOPLE...

I NEVER DREAMED PEOPLE COULD LIVE LIKE THIS... WITH SUCH CONSTANT DANGER AND WITHOUT THE MOTHER'S SONGS TO GUIDE THEM.

MY ***BOND*** WITH THE MOTHER OF SONGS HAS ALWAYS GIVEN ME MY STRENGTH. I THINK I'M AFRAID TO FIND OUT WHAT I AM WITHOUT IT...

From the Producer of THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER.

The only thing they can count on is each other.

flight of the intruder

Danny Glover ★ Willem Dafoe ★ Brad Johnson

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